

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 005867

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ORIGIN ORM-02

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DRAFTED BY D/HA/ORM:SCLOWMAN:LGS

APPROVED BY D/HA:JCARLIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, TH, VS

SUBJECT: LE THI LY AND ORPHANS

REF: BANGKOK 26459, 26586

DEPT HAS DISCUSSED THE CASE OF LE THI LY AND THE ORPHANS UNDER HER CARE AT LENGTH WITH INS/CO AND WE CONCLUDE THAT IT IS INAPPROPRIATE TO ATTEMPT TO BRING THESE CHILDREN IN THROUGH THE GENERAL PAROLE PROGRAM. THE PAROLE PROGRAM HAS BUILT INTO IT NONE OF THE PROCEDURES FOR THE SAFEGUARD OF THE CHILDREN WHICH ARE FOUND IN NORMAL PROCEDURES FOR INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION. THE RESULT IN A NUMBER OF CASES OF ORPHANS EVACUATED FROM VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA HAS BEEN TO CREATE LEGAL SITUATIONS OF GREAT COMPLEXITY FOR WHICH THERE IS NO READILY FORESEEABLE SOLUTION SATISFACTORY TO ALL PARTIES CONCERNED. WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT THE POST SHOULD TO THE EXTENT CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE, ATTEMPT TO ASSIST SISTER LE THI LY TO ARRANGE FOR THE CARE OF THESE CHILDREN IN THAILAND OR FOR THEIR ADOPTION IN THE UNITED STATES THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION AGENCIES AND IN ACCORD WITH MORE NORMAL PROCEDURES PROVIDED FOR SUCH AN EXIGENCY. KISSINGER

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